

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Skepticism is a term of phenomenon of the process or inquiry the evidences of argumentation. According to Hurtt (1999) the methodological skeptic is one who uses doubt and questioning and in the search for knowledge, beside the dogmatic skeptic uses doubt and questioning to show the inability to get knowledge. Kurtz (1992) derived skepticism as a method of doubt used to sue the evidence, and it essentials to the process of scientific research, philosophical dialogue, and critical intelligence. In addition, according to Merriam-Webster (2018) dictionary, skepticism is an attitude of doubt in general or toward specific object. The doctrine of exact knowledge is uncertain, and the skeptics characterized as has a suspended judgment, systematic doubt, or criticism. It is the process of finding a supported conclusion, not the justification of a preconceived conclusion. Skepticism is an essential, and meaningful, component of the search for truth. It also appropriates with the utterance by Shermer (n.d.) that skepticism is a process for discovering the truth rather than general non-acceptance.

Doubtfulness oftentimes happened to society when the people accept any information which is no explanation. In the social life, people oftentimes express their doubtfulness to any information in order to find the truth and certainty. To break the doubtfulness the people must think critically, it can be people to get the explanation by asking, interviewing and by re-establish the statement. It is agree with the statement by Coon (2003) that a critical thinking is evaluation ability, comparing, evaluating, criticizing, and synthesizing the information. Rene Descartes (1641), a philosophy figure from France reveals a statement as “Corgito ergo sum” means that “I think therefore I am”. It is clearly enough that the society try to find the certainty of doubtfulness, where to get the exact answer the people should to proceed by thinking critically. Here the researcher assumes that to get an exact certainty the people can be doubt the knowledge so that the people could think why is it happen? So from that process that is going on a truth absolute.

Ransom Riggs is a writer who grew up on the Eastern shore of Maryland. He got a degree of English literature from Kenyon College and one in film from the University of Southern California. Ransom Riggs is also best known for writing the young adult novel which resulted from collecting old photographs. He also enters the film festival circuit and gets discovered.

According to some account comments the story of novel *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* categorized for teens and young adult, but it is more like a fairy tale than a novel. By an account named Giselle on *Goodreads* that the mystery around the house was explained which was fairly early and without any nuance, it became very boring, and almost childish story. In additions by the name of *LT* on *amazon.com* commentary, it was a great book for adults and young people. There was not any sex or a lot of violence at all and the fascinating photographs only made it more interesting. The positive respond that the book has been getting a lot of wells deserves attention by unusual antique photograph into the narrative. The book also makes suspend the writer disbelief with interesting characters, entertaining situations, colorful descriptions and comic timing. The excellent characters also developed in-depth philosophy about value of life, friendship, and love.

The novel entitled *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs and was published by Quirk Book in 2011 achieves an award as The Best Fiction for Young Adults by SLCT on Wednesday, on April 25, 2012 – 10:06 by the winner types is PTMD. It gets on the New York Times best-seller and named by Amazon as one of “100 Young Adult Books to Read in a Lifetime.” It has been translated into more than 40 languages and sold more than 9 million copies. This novel also adapted into a movie by Tim Boston with the same title that published on September, 30th, 2016.

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children is the first novel by Riggs. The novel by Ransom Riggs entitled *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* is the novel published in June 7th, 2011 by Quirk Book. *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* is the novel book series that *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* is the first book series, and the second series are *Miss Peregrine's Home For Peculiar Children: Hollow City* (2014), the third series are *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children: Library of*

Souls (2015), and the fourth series are *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children: A Map of Days* (2018).

The novel interest exists on the characters that the writer creates such an imaginative character of the peculiar children such they have a magic on themselves. The novel of *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* tells about the journey of the main character called Jacob Portman to obtain the proven thing of others creature that killed his grandfather. Jacob is a sixteen years old boy who also works in part-time job in Smart Aids store, Florida. His father works as a volunteer part-time at the bird rescue. Jacob goes to the tiny island in Wales, Cairnholm Island as his promise to his grandfather. In spite he is not believe to the story about peculiar, but, because Jacob is very love his grandfather he wants to fulfill his promise to meet the peculiar. Besides, he is curious to the thing that killed his grandfather in the woods. His curiosity brings Jacob to the house of peculiar in September, 3rd, 1940. This novel included of two worlds namely, the real world which Jacob Portman lives, and the loop which the peculiar children live. There are ten peculiar children with their own gifted and one bird peculiar called Miss Peregrine whom often shown by the author in the novel.

Therefore, this current study would like to find out when the people so-called as a skeptic and what are those indicators, it is delivered in the first research question as what are the indicators of skepticism in the novel by Ransom Riggs: *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*. In addition, this current study also would like to find out how the skepticism depicted in the character on novel and the last is to discuss the reason of the author addressed skepticism to the character on novel: *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*.

To conclude, this current study explain deeper about skepticism which reflected by the characters on the novel by Ransom Riggs: *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*. Therefore, this current research presents a paper entitled Skepticism Reflected in Novel by Ransom Riggs: *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*: Sociological Perspective.

1.1. Limitation of the Study

The limitation that will be discussed in this study is limited in a skepticism phenomenon on the novel by Ransom Riggs: *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* (2011). This research is only focus to the characters in the novel which delivers the skepticism.

The current study conducts of three problem formulations which going to discuss are about the indicators of skepticism, depiction of skepticism, and the reason of the author addressed the skepticism.

1.2. Problem Questions

Based on the background above, the writer formulated the problem statement as follows:

1. What are the indicators of skepticism in the character in *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* novel by Ransom Riggs?
2. How is skepticism depicted in the character in *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*?
3. Why is skepticism addressed by the author in the character in *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study stated as the following:

1. To find-out about the indicators of skepticism in the character in *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* novel by Ransom Riggs.
2. To describe how the skepticism depicted in the characters in *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*.
3. To find-out the reason of the author in the character in *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* as skepticism.

1.4. Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give valuable contribution academically and practically.

1.4.1. Academically

- 1) This research appointing the information about sociological theory, especially on sociological perspective in the novel *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs.
- 2) This research can be reference for another research on Sociological subject or research in the novel *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*.

1.4.2. Practically

By implementing this research, researcher hopes it can raise people awareness on hoax news. People should be not easy to believe in something thing without search for the truth. This research also motivate the reader that by the persistence people can be rise their desire or purpose.

1.5. Paper Organization

The research paper will comprise in five chapters. A summary of the content: Chapter I, Introduction; in this chapter, the researcher wants to explain about background of study, limitation of study, research problem, objective of the study, benefits of the study. Chapter II, Literature of Related Review; in this chapter, the writer would like to discuss some theories related to the research. Chapter III, Research Method; this chapter explains about research design of the study, subject of the study, data collection and data analysis to conduct the study. Chapter IV, Finding and Discussion; in this chapter, the researcher tries to analyze the data that have been collected. This chapter discusses the research findings based on the result of the data analysis, and the discussion of the findings will present in this chapter. Chapter V, Conclusion and Suggestion; the last chapter of this study is conclusion and suggestion. It presents some conclusions, and some suggestions concerning the finding of the study discussed in the previous chapter.